Placemat Consensus

Teammates place consensus items in the center of their team placemat.

**Setup: Teams are provided a large sheet of construction or flip chart paper**

Steps:

1. Each team draws or is provided a placemat on a large piece of paper. (Placemats contain a space for each team member to write, as well as a central team space.)
2. Facilitator provides teams with a topic (e.g., What are the most important points we have covered? What do we most want for students leaving our school? What are important things that happen during adolescent development?)
3. Teammates all respond simultaneously in their individual space, writing as many items as they can in the time allotted. (Students work “solo”.)
4. Teammate 1 announces one item he/she has written.
5. Teammates discuss the item.
6. If there is consensus that the item is important, Teammate 1 records his/her best synthesis of the team’s idea in the center of the placemat, seeking help with wording if necessary.
7. The process is repeated for one or more rounds using RoundRobin, so each teammate in turn suggests an idea and records the team consensus.

***Possible topics:*** *Movies, favorite foods, vacation spots, setting classroom rules, strengths/weaknesses of a class, causes of a war, etc.*